

PART III REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. This application has been examined. Amendment after final filed on 7/30/08 has been entered. Claims 32-45 are being allowed over the prior art of record.. Prosecution on the merits is closed in this application.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record teaches different ways of distributing image processing. However the prior art of record fails to teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claims), a method for distributing image processing system comprising: receiving image data being manipulated by a user on the user computer and in a **relatively low resolution format**, adding a JPEG header to the stored image data for each of the requested user images to generate modified image data for each of the requested user images; **receiving an image order from the customer computer, the image order identifying at least one of the requested user images; receiving in response to the image order the at least one of the requested user images from the user computer in a relatively high resolution format; and transmitting the at least one of the requested user images in the relatively high resolution format to a remote location (or image laboratory)**, as amended in the independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee, and to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. such submissions should be clearly labeled "comments on statement of Reasons for Allowance".

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Kato (6,738,151) teaches a distributed processing system for image forming apparatus.

Crosby et al. (6,577,311) teaches a technique for automatically providing a high resolution rendering of a low resolution digital image in a distributed network.

Garfinkle (6,570,640) teaches a method of processing a roll of photographic film and distributing visual prints.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gabriel I. Garcia whose telephone number is (571) 272-7434. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday-Thursday from 7:30 AM-6:00 PM. The fax phone number for this group is (571) 273-8300.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business

Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

/Gabriel I Garcia/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2625

Gabriel I. Garcia
Primary Examiner
October 21, 2008

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